

altogether deified, are held in considerable reverence, and kept in a large house set aside for their reception, and into which no female is allowed to enter. They are rude representations of saints with palm leaves held in their hands, the fronds curving over their heads; others have what I take to represent rays of glory; some with Elizabethan collars and tall conical hats; others again, with a sort of helmet or cock's comb-like ridge over the crown, and holding palm leaves, as if for a canopy, over them.

I scarcely know which is the more interesting, this deposit of Globigerina chalk, with its masses of minute shells, or the fact of these carvings representing the Elizabethan and old Spanish mode of dress, which points to the probability of the early Spanish voyagers having visited these Islands.

Mr. Brown informs me that the chalk is thrown up by the sea after earthquakes and tidal waves, in large masses, which fact seems to point to quite another origin of these Islands than is generally supposed.

I have forwarded some portions of this Globigerina chalk to Professor Liversidge, who will doubtless give us a full account of its analysis in due time.

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On *Perameles Cockerellii*. By E. P. RAMSAY, F.L.S.

Not having an opportunity of examining the teeth of this species when describing the animal, I take the first opportunity of supplying this omission, as far as possible, with a remark on the coloration:—

*Incisors*  $\frac{4}{3}:\frac{4}{3}$ , I can find no trace of the 5th (*large posterior*) incisor; *canines*  $\frac{1}{1}:\frac{1}{1}$ , these are, comparatively speaking, *very* small, and about equal in length to the first premolar; *premolars*  $\frac{3}{3}:\frac{3}{3}$ ; *molars*  $\frac{4}{4}:\frac{4}{4}$ , all developed, comparatively broad. The distance between the posterior incisor to the canine is 0·2; to the first true molar, 0·7.

In *Perameles Cockerelli* there is a well-defined narrow line along the upper lip from opposite the canine tooth, bordering the blackish brown of the upper part of the face and head, which extends a little below the eye, and from thence in an upward curved line to the ears; the sides of the face below are ashy grey, pencilled below the ears with blackish and a few little rusty red; there is also a small patch of rusty red at the base of the ear below; the hind feet are blackish brown; and the snout rather bare in front from opposite the canine tooth.

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Notes of a Collection of Birds from the Norman River, Gulf of Carpentaria, with descriptions of some new species. By LE COMTE DE CASTELNAU, Consul Général de France, Melbourne; and E. PIERSON RAMSAY, F.L.S., Curator of the Australian Museum, Sydney.

Le Comte de Castelnau having lately secured for his museum a collection of Birds from the Gulf of Carpentaria, we thought, perhaps, some remarks upon the avi-fauna of this far-off and little known region would prove acceptable to the Society. The following, then, is a list of the species obtained, with descriptions of such as we deem to be *new* or undescribed:—

*The Nomenclature, except where otherwise stated, is that used in Mr. Gould's Handbook to his Birds of Australia.*

1. HALIAETUS LEUCOGASTER, *Vigors*.
2. HIERACIDEA ORIENTALIS, *Schleg.*, *Sharpe*, *Brit. Mus. Cat.*, *Acc.*, vol 1., p. 422, 1874.
3. PANDION LEUCOCEPHALUS, *Gould*.
4. HIERACOGLAUX CONNIVENS.
5. STRIX DELICATULUS, *Gould*.
6. HYLOCHELIDON NIGRICANS.
7. MEROPS ORNATUS.
8. DACELO LEACHII, *Vig. & Horsf.*